

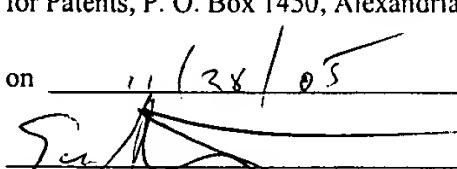
REMARKS

Applicants acknowledge receipt of the Examiner's Office Action dated July 27, 2005. The Office Action rejected all pending claims 19-32. Specifically, the Office Action rejected claims 19 and 25 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 (e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,449,732 issued to David C. Rasmussen et al. ("Rasmussen"). Claims 20 and 31 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Rasmussen in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,003,130 issued to Eric D. Anderson ("Anderson"). Claims 21-24 and 32 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Rasmussen in view of Anderson as applied to claims 20 and 31, and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,878,248 issued to Michael Tehranian et al. ("Tehranian"). Claims 26-30 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Anderson in view of Rasmussen. In light of the foregoing amendments and following remarks, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner's reconsideration and reexamination of all pending claims.

Independent claims have been substantially amended. Applicants assert that the independent claims, as amended, contain limitations that are not taught or fairly suggested by portions of the references cited in the last Office Action. As such, Applicants assert that all claims are in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

Applicants submit that all claims are now in condition for allowance, and an early notice to that effect is earnestly solicited. Nonetheless, should any issues remain that might be subject to resolution through a telephonic interview, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned.

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| I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop <u>Amendment</u> , Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA, 22313-1450, | |
| on <u>11/28/05</u> | <u>11/28/05</u> Date of Signature |
|  Attorney for Applicant(s) | |

Respectfully submitted,



Eric A. Stephenson
Attorney for Applicant(s)
Reg. No. 38,321
Telephone: (512) 439-5093
Facsimile: (512) 439-5099